



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10 HANFORD PROJECT OFFICE
712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5
Richland, Washington 99352

0053439

July 24, 2000

RECEIVED
AUG 10 2000

EDMC

Chris Smith
Project Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 550, H0-12
Richland, WA 99352

RE: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Comments on 105-B Reactor Museum
Feasibility Assessment

Dear Mr. Smith:

EPA has completed review of the feasibility assessment for the B Reactor and finds that the assessment fails to meet all the requirements set forth in Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-93-05. Milestone M-93-05 states: "Issue B Reactor Phase II Feasibility Study Engineering Design Report for public comment." This document was not issued for public comment, and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) did not provide any explanation for not meeting this commitment. We have discussed the issue of public comment, and it is our understanding that DOE has verbally agreed to develop an engineering evaluation/cost estimate (EE/CA) that covers all hazard mitigation activities required to allow for public use of the facility. At a minimum, the document should have discussed the plans for an EE/CA and the associated public involvement activities, as well as a detailed schedule for implementation of the required work.

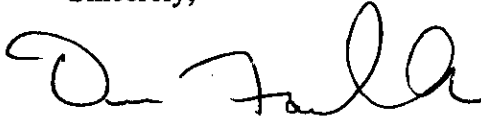
EPA is very disappointed that we were not consulted prior to issuing the contract for the development of this study. The scope of the study was limited to only the existing tour route. Although the DOE attempted to rectify this situation with the development of the 105-B Reactor Museum Phase II Project Supplemental Cost Estimate, this document also falls short of our expectations.

Although the report does an adequate job of identifying hazards and associated remedies for the tour route, the document fails to address access controls required on the outside of the facility to assure the public is protected from other hazards adjacent to the building.

EPA's final concern is that the document fails to discuss an appropriate exposure scenario for building patrons. Given the potential for radon exposure, it is paramount that a realistic exposure scenario be developed in order to determine mitigation actions required to be protective of human health.

EPA recommends we meet soon to discuss the schedule for development of an EE/CA for public review. Please contact me at 376-8631 if you need further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Faulk", written in a cursive style.

Dennis Faulk
EPA Project Manager

cc: Beth Bilson, DOE
Dee Lloyd, DOE
Bob Henckel, BHI
Alex Stone, Ecology
Gene Weisskopf, BRMA
Merilyn Reeves, HAB
Bill Burke, CTUIR
Pat Sobotta, NPT
Russell Jim, YN
Administrative Record, 100-BC-1 Operable Unit